# **SECTION 3**

# NEWS VIEWS

March 2024

#### Village of **CHEVY CHASE**

#### CALENDAR

#### FRIDAY, MARCH 1

Seasonal adjustments to afternoon dog visiting hours in Gazebo Park: 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Tiny Dog Tuesdays 5:00-6:00 p.m.

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6

First Bulk Trash of the year, curbside Recycling, curbside

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 9

Last Saturday for the Farmers Market until May 4

#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13

Council Meeting, in-person/Zoom hybrid

CCUMC Library, 7:45 pm

Agenda, Meeting ID and password will be sent via email to residents. Interested members of the public can contact the Village Manager to obtain ID and passcode.

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 14

Food Truck Night: Silver & Sons BBQ Gazebo Park, 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.,

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 17

**Everybody's Irish Party** 

Gazebo Park, 5:30-7:30pm, rain or shine

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 24

Easter Egg Hunt

Gazebo Park, 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. For children 6 and under. Bring your own basket

Candidate Statements due by 5:00 p.m. to Village Manager via email (see story this issue)

#### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

Council Meeting, in-person/Zoom hybrid

CCUMC library, 7:45 p.m.

See above for Zoom information

\* In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and our desire to have our meetings open to everyone in our community, Council meetings are held at the Chevy Chase United Methodist Church which has handicapped elevator access via the parking lot entrance. We are grateful to the Church for their generosity in allowing us to use their facility each month.

# EASTER EGG **HUNT SET FOR** MARCH 24

The Easter Bunny is returning to Section 3! Before he hops in, his advance team will 'hide' his special eggs for children 6 and under on Sunday, March 24. He'll meet with children before the hunt, pose for photographs and then announce the opening of the park to the 'hunters.'

Plan on bringing a basket or a bucket to collect 10 eggs per child and join us for a brief, low key event at 11:45 a.m. sharp at Gazebo Park. We will open the gates to the youngest children first and then their older siblings. This is a fun event that we hope all our Section 3 little ones and grandchildren will enjoy.

No real eggs are involved, only plastic eggs filled with candy and prizes. We hope you will join us from 11:45 a.m. to 12: 15 p.m.



#### VILLAGE COUNCIL & STAFF

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Village Manager (301) 656-9117

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The Council met on Wednesday, February 14 at 6:00 p.m. The hybrid in-person/Zoom meeting included all Council members except Tom Carroll, who was out of town on business.

The minutes of the January meeting as published in the February newsletter were approved.

#### **BUILDINGS & ROADS**

The Village Manager reported on the following granted or pending permits:

As a point of clarification, last month the **Landau** family of Raymond Street was given permits both for demolition of their existing deck and construction of a new deck. The February newsletter did not make it as clear as it should have been.

The **Saifee** family of 6813 Florida Street was given a permit for two second floor additions for which they were previously granted a variance and one rear addition.

#### **Pending:**

Permit for the **Allen** family of 3609 Taylor Street for an enlarged deck.

Permit for excavation and finishing of the basement level with a sump pump and an egress window for the **Parets** family at 3623 Raymond Street.

Permit for a new walkway for the **Dobbins** family at 3702 Raymond Street.

Permit for a second story dormer for the **Mandell** family at 3614 Taylor Street.

Permit for a fence for the **Davis** family at 3606 Taylor Street. Permit for the enclosure of what has been a screened-in side porch for the **Brodie** family at 6816 Brookville Road.

Permit for fence gates for the **Morgan** family at 6702 Brookville Road.

**Status of ongoing project:** The permit for construction of 6803 Georgia Street has been extended by the County to March 15, at which time the owners will have to apply for another extension. Section 3's building permit expires May 28.

It was noted that the site plan and forest conservation plan for Corso Chevy Chase was approved by the Planning Board on February 8. The Village Manager had no further information on when the Maryland State Highway Administration would announce its findings on the proposed traffic access plan for the facility, a proposal that includes the installation of a new traffic light at Connecticut Avenue and Taylor Street. The Village Manager stated that once she has more information, she will inform the community.

#### FINANCIAL & ADMINISTRATIVE

Council members had no questions regarding the financial summaries that had been sent to them prior to the meeting.

The Village Manager was asked to report on the status of the potential rental offices above the Olympia Cafe on Brookville Road. She reported that she had received an estimate for a variety of work that would be necessary, including painting, removal of old carpeting, and electrical work, and planned to get another estimate regarding the electrical work. Once the Village Manager has obtained the necessary build out information, she will begin negotiations with the landlord. The Council agreed that a May 1 move-in date was a reasonable target date, assuming negotiations are successful.

The Village Manager discussed the possibility of splitting up her responsibilities by hiring an employee on an hourly basis to serve as Social Events Coordinator and a back-up to the Village Manager. The Council unanimously supported the concept of hiring a Social Events Coordinator, and the Village Manager agreed to circulate a draft job description to the Council and, once approved, to advertise the job. The hourly compensation rate will be \$30 per hour. Funds are already in the budget for a second position.

The Village Manager mentioned that she and Council member Katey Vale have been working on a new job description for the Permit Coordinator position, hoping to have the position filled by May. She mentioned that in this process, some refinements are being made to the conditions in the Section 3 building permits. In response to a comment from a resident, it was agreed that at least one Council member should personally visit any location for which a variance is requested, although it is not felt that the Ordinances need to be revised to add that requirement.

#### **COMMUNITY & SOCIAL**

Residents were asked if they had any additional questions or issues.

The Council voted unanimously to go into executive session to evaluate the Village Manager's salary and performance.

The public meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.



#### NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

It is with great sadness that we share the passing of long-time Section 3 resident **David Kiyonaga**. Mr. Kiyonaga passed away on February 11 from complications arising from pneumonia. He leaves his wife of 49 years, Dede, son Davis, daughters Katelyn, Deirdre and Grace and four grandchildren. For the past 34 years the Kiyonaga family has lived on Georgia St. David practiced law, primarily as a defense attorney handling both criminal and civil matters. The family suggests donations may be made in David's name to the Missionaries of Charity.

# B-CC USED BOOK SALE, MARCH 9-10

Many of you generously donated books to the annual B-CC Used Book Sale, thus freeing up valuable shelf space. Why not attend the book sale and stock up at bargain rates? It will be open Saturday from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Most books are



priced between \$1 and \$3. On Sunday, open from 10:00am to 3:00pm, they offer a special: fill a bag for \$10. Cash, checks or credit cards accepted. There will be a cafe and musical entertainment both days.

Funds from the sale support clubs and activities that benefit every B-CC student. The high school is located at 4301 East-West Highway in Bethesda.

### **B-CC MULCH MADNESS**

Mulch Madness is B-CC High School's biggest annual fundraiser for its athletic program. Organized by the B-CC Athletic Boosters, the sale is a historic school community tradition at B-CC run by students and parent volunteers for over 25 years. It's a wonderful way to support your school community. You can order up to the March 12 deadline by ordering at BCCMulch.com. They provide 3 cubic foot bags of high-quality natural dark brown double shredded hardwood mulch. When applied 2" deep, one bag will cover about 12 square feet. Orders will be delivered to your driveway close to the street on the weekend of March 15.

# EVERYBODY'S IRISH EVENT MARCH 17

Take a moment on the evening of Sunday, March 17 to join us for our annual **Everybody's Irish Celebration** at Gazebo Park.



We'll have Irish adult beverages, water, sodas and juice boxes. And per our tradition, we will have all manner of green food—our favorite green eggs and ham, mini green bagels, mini-corned beef sandwiches and dips. We'll have a tent and, if it's cold, we'll have heaters. This is a stand-up event for residents of all ages. There is no rain date, so plan on bringing the family whatever the weather may bring. We'll be celebrating from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. with drinks, snacks, and the best neighbors you could want.

# CHEVY CHASE AT HOME AUTHOR TALK

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 1:00-2:00 P.M. VIA ZOOM

Do you like historical fiction? Chevy Chase At Home has invited Chevy Chase Village resident and author Christine Fallert Kessides to share her experiences in writing the recently published debut novel, *Magda*, *Standing*.

Kessides will discuss how she took fragments of family lore to create a tale of German immigrants in the era of the Great War and the Spanish flu. After reviewing her family genealogy and reflecting on some of her relatives' history as German immigrants, Kessides was inspired to write Magda, Standing. The story takes place in Pittsburgh in the years 1916-1919. It centers on a 16-year-old girl, Magda, who must leave school to care for her ill mother and little brother. Faced with the looming Great War and a global pandemic, Magda embarks on a journey of self-discovery that leads her back to embracing her family and caring for a wider community.

The author was born and raised in Pittsburgh. Before she retired, she was a policy analyst for the World Bank. Since then, she has served on the board and as grant committee co-chair for Giving Together.

This event will be held online and open to the community. To get the Zoom link, register in advance at info@chevychaseathome.org or (301) 657-3115.

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#### **ALT-ENERGY IN SECTION 3**

Increasingly, Section 3 residents are making energy-conscious moves by installing solar panels and generators as well as buying electric cars. We have impressive collective experience and knowledge to share and wanted to publish the names and streets where early adopters live so that residents who are contemplating a solar panel or installing a generator, can contact a neighbor to draw on their experiences.

Montgomery County requires a permit for both solar panels and generators. You can get a great deal of information on all renewables by visiting

https://montgomeryenergyconnection.org/switch-to-clean-energy/. The manner in which you finance the acquisition of solar panels is well covered by the County's own Office of consumer protection: www.montgomerycountymd.gov/OCP/a\_z/home\_ownership/solar-panel-finance.html.

Unless there is a structure on the ground, Section 3 does not require a permit for the installation of solar panels. In the case of generators, no permit is required as long as the generator is not located in the side or rear setbacks. If it is, then residents will need to apply for a variance because a generator is a structure within the meaning of the Section 3 Code. The County requires permitting and inspection.



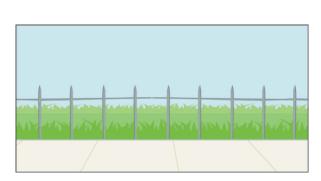
# Planning an addition? Installing a fence? A sump pump?

Before you get too far in your planning, check in with the Village Manager (now acting Permit Services Coordinator) to make sure your plans conform with Section 3 building code. If you need insights into the rules, our website, under the governance tab, has the entire code of ordinances. Chapter 6 covers most of the rules applicable to building permits. Solar panels can be installed to cover the whole house use of electricity, or simply to cover the fridge and other appliances. Charlie Bruetman reports that his 52 solar panels have made it such that his Pepco bill is covered 10 of the 12 months of the year. The residents listed below have agreed to have their names published and field questions from neighbors. Section 3 does not track these installations except in those cases where a building permit or variance is required. The following list was compiled to the best of our knowledge.

Section 3 homes with solar panels: Borders-Raymond St; Chaturvedi/Clark-Florida St; D'Ambrosio-Fulton St; Deiter/Arble-Raymond St; Jacob-Raymond St; Porras/Bruetman-Connecticut Ave & Bradley Ln; Schmid/Nesbitt-Spring St; Shuchart-Fulton St; Steptoe-Shepherd St; Vrem/Ydstie-Taylor St.

Section 3 homes with generators: Carroll-Florida St; Leleck-Shepherd St; Messan-Connecticut Ave; Porras/Bruetman-Connecticut Ave & Bradley Ln; Robboy/Waterman-Florida St; Steptoe-Shepherd St

The April Newsletter will focus on those who own electric cars so that neighbors can inquire about the transition to electric vehicles, charging stations and their cost, and other issues like special batteries for charging. If you own an electric car and would be willing to answer questions from neighbors, let the Village Manager know, and if you have questions about electric cars, let her know that as well.



# PARK RE-SODDING SLATED FOR EARLY MARCH

The Gazebo Park will be closed on March 6-7 for re-sodding work and will remain closed for between two and three weeks to allow the sod to take hold.

# GAZEBO PARK FOR RENT TO RESIDENTS

Planning a birthday party or a special event? Did you know you can "rent" the Gazebo Park? We've had two resident weddings there and numerous child and adult birthday parties. The "rent" is free to residents, but a permit is required. Contact the Village Manager to see if the date you want is available.



There is a five-hour maximum on any park rental (1 hour to clean up and set up before and 1 hour to clean up after and a max of 3 hours for any party). Noise is also a consideration. You have to reserve well in advance as the park closes for sod installation or someone else might have

already reserved the park.

We will send 'Park Closed' notices to put on 24 hours prior to the event on both gates. The permit application along with liability waivers for a standard party and serving alcohol are all fillable forms online at chevychasesection3.org under Forms and Fees.

## UPCOMING COUNCIL ELECTIONS

Section 3 has a five-member elected Council whose terms rotate every two years, thus providing continuity. Two seats are up for election this year. Treasurer Tom Carroll and Secretary Ellie Nader will each complete a two-year term at the close of the May Annual Meeting. Both Ellie and Tom have decided not to seek reelection. Interested residents are invited to run for Village Council.

Council members meet once a month, on the second Wednesday of the month except in August when no meeting is held. Any interested candidate must submit a 200-300-word statement as to why they would like to run and what they feel they could do for the community to the Village Manager via email by 5:00 p.m. on Sunday, March 24. To be eligible, a candidate must be a qualified Section 3 voter and submit the required statement. Once elected, the Council determines who will serve in what capacity, so candidates run for a place on the Council, not for a specific position. If you would like to nominate someone for the Council, we ask that you do it soon so if they want to run, they will have sufficient time to write their statement which will be published in the April newsletter.



# Dog Visiting Hour

### REMINDERS

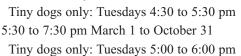
#### MORNINGS (YEAR-ROUND)

7:30 to 9:30 am weekdays. 8:00 to 9:30 am weekends

Tiny dogs only: Thursdays 7:30 to 8:30 am

#### **A**FTERNOONS (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)

4:30 to 7:00 pm November 1 to February 28



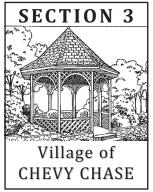
PLEASE PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOGS... THERE ARE BAG DISPENSERS THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY, PLEASE USE THEM!

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#### **SECTION 3 VILLAGE OF CHEVY CHASE**

P.O. Box 15070 Chevy Chase, MD 20815





March 2024

## TAXES TAXES TAXES

APRIL 15 IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. WHEN YOU FILE YOUR MARYLAND TAXES, PLEASE DON'T FORGET TO INCLUDE THE CODE 1614 UNDER LOCAL JURISDICTION WHICH INDICATES YOU LIVE IN SECTION 3. IF YOU USE A TAX PREPARER, PLEASE REMIND THEM TO DO THE SAME.

